

Message Text

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EUR/P:MR. SAVAGE
NEA/ARN:MR. KORN
H:MISS FOLGER (INFO)

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R 032209Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
USINT DAMASCUS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

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. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING
GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING JUNE 3,
1974:

QUOTE: AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: I HAVE A COUPLE OF ANNOUNCE-
MENTS HERE. ONE, THE FIRST ONE, HAS TO DO WITH PRINCE
FAHD'S VISIT. HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE FAHD BIN ABD
AL'AZIZ, SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF
INTERIOR OF SAUDI ARABIA, WILL BE ARRIVING IN WASHINGTON ON
JUNE 5 FOR OFFICIAL TALKS ON JUNE 6TH AND 7TH. HE WILL BE
RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND WILL BE MEETING WITH
SECRETARY KISSINGER, WHO IS ACTING AS HIS HOST, AND WITH
OTHER SENIOR ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS.

THE VISIT, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 24, WAS
TEMPORARILY POSTPONED BECAUSE OF THE SECRETARY'S PRO-
TRACTED PRESENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

THE PURPOSE OF PRINCE FAHD'S VISIT WILL BE TO DISCUSS WAYS
TO EXPAND UNITED STATES-SAUDI ARABIAN COOPERATION IN THE
ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL FIELDS
AND IN THE AREA OF THE KINGDOM'S DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS.

PRINCE FAHD WILL BE HEADING A DELEGATION OF SENIOR SAUDI
OFFICIALS.

Q. ON THE SUBJECT OF GUIDANCE, WHEN WILL THE NEXT MIDDLE
EAST TRIP TAKE PLACE?

A. ON THE SUBJECT OF NO GUIDANCE, I THINK YOU WILL ASK THE
WHITE HOUSE ON THAT SUBJECT.

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Q. WHEN IS THE SECRETARY'S NEXT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST?

A. I AM UNAWARE OF ANY TRIP THE SECRETARY HAS PLANNED IN
THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. THERE WAS A REPORT THAT MR. SISCO MET WITH ARAFAT.
HAVE YOU BEEN ASKED WHETHER THIS MEETING OCCURRED?

A. YES, I HAVE BEEN ASKED. I WAS ASKED SATURDAY, SUNDAY, AND NOW AGAIN TODAY. THE ANSWER IS "NO."

Q. THEY HAVE NOT MET?

A. THEY HAVE NOT MET.

Q. HAS ANY AMERICAN OFFICIAL MET WITH ARAFAT?

A. THERE HAVE BEEN NO POLITICAL CONTACTS WHATSOEVER WITH THE PALESTINIANS.

Q. WAS THE MEETING SCHEDULED BETWEEN SISCO AND ARAFAT?

A. THERE WAS NO MEETING EVER SCHEDULED.

Q. WHY DO YOU SAY "POLITICAL" CONTACTS? ANY OTHER CONTACTS?

A. NO OTHER CONTACTS THAT I'M AWARE OF ON THIS, NO.

Q. ARE WE DISCUSSING ANYTHING WITH THE PALESTINIANS BY WAY OF A THIRD PARTY?

A. NOT THAT I'M AWARE OF, NO; I DON'T THINK WE ARE.

Q. IS IT THE AMERICAN POSITION THAT THE PALESTINIANS SHOULD BE REPRESENTED AS A SEPARATE GROUP AT THE NEXT GENEVA CONFERENCE?

A. ON THAT I THINK THAT WE MIGHT GO BACK TO OUR LAST STOP IN CAIRO WHEN PRESIDENT SADAT MENTIONED TO THE PRESS -- UNCLASSIFIED

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"WILL THE PLO BE INVITED TO GENEVA?"

"SADAT: WE HAVE TO DISCUSS THE WHOLE THING WITH THE ARABS FIRST."

"WHEN WILL THE GENEVA CONFERENCE RECONVENE?"

"WE MUST DISCUSS THE WHOLE THING AMONG OURSELVES -- EGYPT, SYRIA, JORDAN AND THE PALESTINIANS. WE MUST HAVE SOME TIME FOR THAT. AFTER THAT WE WILL APPROACH THE TWO SUPERPOWERS AND RECONVENE."

ON THE QUESTION THAT YOU ASKED, WE HAVE NO POSITION ON THAT -- AS JOE SISCO, I BELIEVE, MENTIONED THIS MORNING, ON THE TODAY SHOW.

Q. ARE WE PREPARED TO MAKE PUBLIC THE TEXT OF OUR COMMITMENT TO ISRAEL REGARDING A DIPLOMATIC INTERVENTION FOR ISRAEL, ON BEHALF OF ISRAEL, IN THE EVENT IT PURSUES TERRORISTS ACROSS ITS FRONTIERS?

A. NO. ON THAT SUBJECT, JUST LET ME SAY THIS: THAT PRIME MINISTER GOLDA MEIR MADE A STATEMENT IN THE KNESSET-- I BELIEVE IT WAS THURSDAY -- AND WE HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT TO MAKE. SHE MADE THIS STATEMENT AND WE JUST LEAVE IT THERE.

Q. ON THE SAME SUBJECT, THERE WAS A REPORT FROM GENEVA -- THAT THE SYRIANS ASSURED MR. KISSINGER THAT THEY WOULD TAKE CONTROL OF TERRORISTS EMANATING FROM THEIR BORDER. CAN YOU CONFIRM THAT REPORT?

A. I CAN NOT CONFIRM IT, NO. I DO NOT WANT TO GET INTO ANY OF THE DISCUSSIONS THAT THE SECRETARY MAY HAVE HAD DURING THESE NEGOTIATIONS -- ANY OF THE DISCUSSIONS ON EITHER SIDE. HE HAS REPORTED TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND WE'RE GOING TO JUST LEAVE IT RIGHT THERE.

Q. WELL, HOW CAN YOU LEAVE IT THERE? WHEN YOU GO BACK TO THE SWEARING IN OF THE SECRETARY IN THE HEARINGS BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, THERE UNCLASSIFIED

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CERTAINLY WAS SOME IDEA THAT A LOT MORE WOULD BE SHARED WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE THAN DURING THE DAYS OF VIET-NAM. NOW YOU'VE GOT A CLOSED HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS; YOU'VE GOT A CLOSED HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON THE MIDDLE EAST. AND YOU'RE SUGGESTING THAT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET INVOLVED IN IT. WHY SHOULD THERE BE SUCH A BLACKOUT ON SHARING SOME OF THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE NEGOTIATIONS?

A. WELL, THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED -- A DISENGAGE-

MENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL. THE UN PROTOCOL HAS BEEN PUBLISHED, AND THE MAP OF THE DISENGAGEMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED. AND THAT IS WHERE IT'S GOING TO STAND.

Q. YOU MEAN IT'S NEVER GOING TO BE PUBLISHED?

A. I AM UNAWARE OF WHETHER IT WILL EVER BE PUBLISHED OR NOT. ALL I KNOW IS THAT THE SECRETARY HAS REPORTED TO THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE, AND THAT'S WHERE IT STANDS AT THIS TIME.

Q. WILL THE SECRETARY RESPOND TO SOME OF THESE QUESTIONS

AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE?

A. WELL, I SUGGEST THAT IF YOU WISH, YOU ASK HIM AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE; AND MAYBE THAT WOULD BE THE BEST WAY.

Q. LET'S HAVE THIS CLEAR. THE UNITED STATES HAS MADE A COMMITMENT TO A FOREIGN POWER TO DO SOMETHING POLITICALLY AT ANY TIME THAT OTHER POWER COMMITS ANY ACT. AND YET YOU ARE SAYING THAT THIS WILL NOT BE MADE PUBLIC TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, IS THAT RIGHT?

A. WHAT I DID SAY WAS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL MADE A STATEMENT ABOUT A UNITED STATES COMMITMENT IN THE KNESSET LAST THURSDAY AND WE HAVE NO FURTHER COMMENT TO ADD TO THE STATEMENT THAT SHE MADE.

Q. DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE UNITED STATES BACKS EVERY DETAIL OF WHAT MRS. MEIR SAID, THAT IT CONFIRMS WHAT SHE SAID COMPLETELY?

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A. I THINK YOU CAN INTERPRET WHAT I SAID TO MEAN THAT THAT CONFIRMS WHAT SHE SAID.

Q. I THOUGHT I SAW SOMEWHERE THAT KISSINGER DENIED THE REPORT THAT ASSAD HAD GIVEN HIM ASSURANCES THAT HE WOULD TRY TO CONTROL THE TERRORISTS.

A. I AM UNAWARE OF THAT. I'D HAVE TO CHECK IT.

Q. IF I CAN GO BACK TO THIS COMMITMENT OF SORTS THAT DR. KISSINGER GAVE TO THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, DID HE CONVEY THAT POSITION STATEMENT REGARDING TERRORISTS TO THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT AS WELL?

A. I JUST DON'T WANT TO GET INTO HIS DISCUSSIONS ON THE DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, WITH THE DISCUSSIONS HE HAD WITH EITHER SIDE. I JUST WANT TO LEAVE IT THE WAY I

DID WITH REGARD TO PRIME MINISTER GOLDA MEIR'S STATEMENT IN THE KNESSET, IF I MAY. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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